

[English]

67

Irrigation Projects

5739. DR. JAYANTA RONGPI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of major and medium irrigation projects cleared by the Union Government during last three years, State-wise;

(b) the details of irrigation projects in Assam pending with the Union Government for clearance; and

(c) the time by which those are likely to be cleared ?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDHYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) 8 major irrigation projects, one each from Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Orissa, 2 from Punjab, and 3 from Rajasthan were given investment clearance. In addition, 2 medium projects one each from Orissa and Himachal Pradesh have been approved by the Planning Commission for investment. Also, techno-economic appraisal of 47 major and 25 medium irrigation projects was completed by Central Water Commission during the last three years.

(b) and (c). After completion of techno-economic appraisal, the Advisory Committee considered one major irrigation project namely Pagladiya in July, 1990. The Brahmaputra Board has been directed to modify the project report by including hydro power and ground water utilisation aspects and secure environment and forest clearance. In addition, 2 medium irrigation projects namely Burisuti and Garufalla received in December and September, 1990 respectively were examined and comments sent to the State Governments for compliance. The State Government are required to modify the project report

acceptable to the Central Water Commission.

68

Telephone

Local S.T.D. Facility in Kerala

5740. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to provide local STD facility from Kulathupuzha and Kadakkal Exchanges to link Taluk headquarters in Punalur and Kottarakare respectively in Kerala; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a). No, Sir.

(b). Group Dialling facility is not technically permissible from Kulathupuzha and Kadakkal to their Taluka headquarters Punalur and Kottarakara.

S.T.D. facility is planned for Kulathupuzha and Kodakkal exchange by the end of the 8th plan period.

68

Telephone

Linking of District Headquarters by S.T.D. in Haryana

5741. SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether all district headquarters in Haryana have been linked through STD facility; and

(b) if not, the time by which they are likely to be linked?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a). No, Sir.

(b) The only remaining district headquarters of Kurukshetra is planned to be linked through STD by March, 92.

[Translation]

69

Opening of Post Offices in Villages of Maharashtra

'5742. **SHRI GOVINDRAO NIKAM:** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria for opening of new post office in the rural area;

(b) the number of villages in Maharashtra where post office facility is not available;

(c) the number of villages out of them in which post offices are likely to be opened during the current financial year;

(d) whether the management of post offices has been assigned to teachers in several villages in Maharashtra;

(e) if so, the number of such post offices in Maharashtra as on June 30, 1991; and

(f) the reasons for not making at least part-time recruitments in such post offices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a). The norms for opening of new-post offices in rural areas are given in the attached statement.

(b). There are 28307 villages in Maharashtra where there are no Post Offices but they are served by existing nearby post offices.

(c). It is proposed to open 150 Post Offices in the rural areas during the current financial year, subject to justification.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) As on 30.6.91 there were 334 such post offices in Maharashtra

(f) The policy of the Deptt. is to appoint as E.D. Agents only those who have an alternative source of Revenue. In these cases teachers were employed. If need arises there is no objection to recruit others also who may have alternative source of Revenue.

STATEMENT

Norms For Opening of Post Offices: Effective from 1.4.1991.

Branch Post Offices

i) Population:-

3000 population in a group of villages.

ii) Distance:

The minimum distance from the nearest existing post office will be 3 Kmts.

iii) Anticipated income:

The minimum anticipated revenue will be 33 1/3 % of the cost.

i) In Hilly, Tribal, Desert and inaccessible Rural Areas;

Population:

500 population in an individual village or 1000 population in a group of villages.

ii) Distance:-

The distance limit will be the same as above except that in hilly areas, the minimum distance limit can be relaxed by the Directorate.